

# STATE OF WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

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For Immediate Release October 27, 2015

# Don't Be Scared... Be Prepared! Tips to make Halloween and beyond fun and safe

(MADISON) – Halloween is this Saturday. Children love to dress up, enjoy parties and eat yummy treats. It's great to have fun but remember that safety is the number one priority. Wisconsin Emergency Management's "ReadyWisconsin" campaign has these safety tips and ideas.

### **Trick or Treat Rules**

Children under the age of 12 should not trick-or-treat alone.

Children over 12 should walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

Make sure your child or a responsible adult with them carries a cell phone for quick communication.

Only visit well-lit homes and never accept rides from strangers.

# Be Seen

Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. Fastening reflective tape to costumes and bags also helps drivers see you.

### **Safe Costumes**

Make sure costumes (including masks, beards and wigs) are flame resistant.

Swords, knives and other costume accessories should be short, soft and flexible.

Test make-up in small area and remove all make-up before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

Wear well-fitting masks, costumes and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips and falls.

Do not allow your children to wear decorative contact lenses as they present a risk of serious eye injury.

## **Check Your Treats**

An adult should examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them.

Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home.

Avoid eating homemade treats made by a stranger.

When it doubt, throw it out.

Have a fun and safe Halloween!